



Homeland
Security

U.S. COAST GUARD



CG E-NEWSLETTER

CG e-Newsletter **August 31, 2006**

The CG e-Newsletter is designed to keep you informed of issues and programs that affect the United States Coast Guard. It includes links to commercial news materials that do not represent official Coast Guard positions or policies. Some of these links may require free registration with the website.

The current Coast Guard Magazine is available online:

<http://www.uscg.mil/magazine>

The current Coast Guard Reservist Magazine is available online:

<http://www.uscg.mil/reservist/magazine.htm>

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Homeland Security

Post-9/11, U.S. Coast Guard makes port security a top priority

NY1

Thursday's announcements about the uncovered terror plot in the United Kingdom comes one month before the fifth anniversary of September 11th. Since then our law enforcement officials have changed the way things are done here to make us safe. That extends to the U.S. Coast Guard. Before the terror attacks, port security wasn't a priority, but now it's the guard's top concern. Solana Pyne filed the following report as NY1's coverage of the [9/11 anniversary](http://www.ny1.com/ny1/content/index.jsp?&aid=61721) continues.

<http://www.ny1.com/ny1/content/index.jsp?&aid=61721>

Detect, deter, defend and defeat

Military.com

WASHINGTON (Aug. 30) – It's 3 o'clock in the morning, a pilot boat drifts in 12 foot seas near the harbor entrance to a US port waiting for an inbound container ship. On board that boat, besides the pilots, are members to the US Coast Guard's Vessel Boarding Security Team (VBST) and agents of the US Customs and Boarder Protection Agency (CBP) preparing to board the ship off shore. Their mission is to ensure the ship doesn't diverge from its intended course as it enters the port and to verify the identity of the crew on board. Intelligence from international sources and the vessels last ports of call has increased security concerns subjecting the vessel to greater scrutiny and enhanced security measures. <http://www.military.com/features/0,15240,111849,00.html>

Scenario to stage multiple threats

Boston Globe

By Mac Daniel

BOSTON (Aug. 29) – Less than a week after the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, one of the largest anti-terror drills ever in New England will test how public safety officials deal with some of their worst fears -- all at the same time. The nightmare scenario starts with an explosion in a basement lab in Everett, jumps to a threat to the liquefied natural gas facility in Everett, and mushrooms to multiple explosions, one involving a radioactive "dirty bomb," inside the CambridgeSide Galleria mall, according to a memo obtained by the Globe yesterday. Finally, as patrons flee the mall, at least one improvised explosive device is found at the nearby Lechmere MBTA station, according to the memo outlining Operation Poseidon, scheduled for the morning of Sept. 17.

http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2006/08/29/drill_will_be_gauge_of_terror_readiness/

Officials tout security of Georgetown's port

The Sun News, South Carolina

GEORGETOWN, SC (Aug. 23) – After the latest global terrorism scare, port security was again a hot topic, but people don't have to worry about the port of Georgetown, those responsible for its safety say. "I think it's right for everyone to be concerned," said Cmdr. Tom Allan of the Charleston-based Coast Guard contingent that oversees port security. The disclosure earlier this month that British agents had uncovered a plot to blow up airplanes that were flying between England and the U.S. brought the issue of travel security to the forefront again.

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/mld/myrtlebeachonline/15338395.htm>

Anti-terror exercise begins in Coronado

SAN DIEGO (Aug. 21) – An anti-terrorism exercise jointly conducted by the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard over the next two weeks began Monday on San Diego Bay, according to Naval Base Coronado public affairs. SEAHAWK 2006 is designed to enhance interoperability between the Navy and Coast Guard and build war-fighting capabilities and capacity for regional coastal maritime security, military officials said.

<http://www.10news.com/news/9712569/detail.html>

Deepwater

Updating Coast Guard's equipment vital to U.S.

Tyler Morning News, Texas

(Editorial)

TYLER, TX (Aug. 21) – So much attention has gone to what went wrong in the Hurricane Katrina disaster period that people might be surprised to learn that not all of the rescue efforts were flawed. A star performer in those trying days was the United States Coast Guard, credited with having rescued and evacuated 33,000 people and providing the quickest, most effective response of any government agency during the catastrophe.

http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=17092536&BRD=1994&PAG=461&dept_id=374751&rft=6

Deepwater Newsletter

http://www.uscg.mil/deepwater/media/july06/newsletter_july06.htm

On the Job

Women who lead: RADM Brice-O'Hara oversees an operation of 29 units



**Honolulu Star-Bulletin
photo, with permission**

Honolulu Star Bulletin

By Allison Schaefer

HONOLULU, HI (Aug. 29) – Rear Adm. Sally Brice-O'Hara, the conference's keynote luncheon speaker, motivates folks closer to home as the first woman to head the U.S. Coast Guard's District 14. Brice-O'Hara, who will be speaking on leadership and motivational women, said Gov. Linda Lingle was too persuasive to turn down when it came to a speaking request. "Who says 'no' to the governor?" Brice-O'Hara said, adding that she is honored to join the ranks of such

international dynamos and to share highlights of her Coast Guard career.

<http://starbulletin.com/2006/08/29/business/story02.html>

Feds may seek death penalty for alleged kingpin

CNN

SAN DIEGO, CA (Aug. 22) – The federal government may seek the death penalty for the accused kingpin of one of Mexico's oldest and most notorious drug cartels, a prosecutor said Monday. Javier Arellano Felix currently faces a maximum sentence of 40 years in prison under a 2003 indictment. A federal grand jury accused him and others of moving tons of Colombian cocaine and Mexican marijuana to the United States and involvement in a string of assassinations or plots, U.S. authorities said.

<http://www.cnn.com/2006/LAW/08/22/kingpin.captured.ap/>

Navy ship arrives with 7 tons of cocaine

CNN

By the Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, FL (Aug. 20) – A Navy ship brought in 15,000 pounds (6,750 kilograms) of cocaine -- valued at about \$480 million (euro374.9 million) -- seized in two drug busts in the Pacific Ocean this summer, authorities said. The USS John L. Hall brought the drugs into Naval Station Mayport on Friday, said Donnie Brzuska, a U.S. Coast Guard spokesman. The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Alert from Astoria, Oregon, captured the first 5,000 pounds (2,250 kilograms) on June 12 after sharpshooters disabled a speedboat about 150 miles (241 kilometers) northeast of the Galapagos Islands. The speedboat crew was captured boarding a nearby fishing vessel.

<http://www.cnn.com/2006/US/08/20/ship.cocaine.ap/>

Coast Guard Rescues Two Men Near Galveston Jetties

KBTV-TV, Beaumont, TX

HOUSTON (Aug. 21) – Coast Guard crews rescued two men from a 17-foot boat that capsized near the Galveston Jetties late last night. The Coast Guard watchstander at Sector Houston-Galveston received a call from the Galveston Police Department at 11:26 p.m. Sunday. The police department reported that they had received a call from a man on Galveston's East Beach. The man stated that he was talking to his buddy on a cell phone, when his friend said that his boat had just capsized about one mile from shore near Galveston's south jetty.

<http://216.87.159.39/news/default.asp?mode=shownews&id=12250>

U.S. sends team to help Philippines assess oil spill

MANILA, Philippines (Aug. 23) – A four-man team from the U.S. Coast Guard and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are due to arrive Thursday to begin work with Philippine and international counterparts in assessing the oil spill off Guimaras Island, said the U.S. Embassy in Manila Wednesday. "They will cooperate closely with Philippine authorities and other international partners regarding options and priorities in responding to the incident," the embassy said in a statement.

http://www.redorbit.com/news/science/629887/us_sends_team_to_help_philippines_assess_oil_spill/index.html?source=r_science

Environment

Slow response to May River spill prompts change

The Island Packet

By Daniel Brownstein

BLUFFTON (Aug. 23) – Although there are few remaining signs of last month's diesel spill in the May River, what some have called a slow response appears to be prompting change. After the leaking vessel was discovered in the pristine estuary, residents say they were given the runaround by the U.S. Coast Guard and two state environmental agencies. Each official referred them to another, they said. "I think all of us recognized on that date that there was an issue with the response," said town engineer Jeff McNesby, who has met with the Coast Guard and S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control to figure out how to address future spills.

http://www.beaufortgazette.com/local_news/story/6046767p-5306664c.html

Coast Guard Roundup

U.S. Coast Guard: During Katrina/After Katrina

KALB-TV, New Orleans

By John-Thomas Kobos

(VIDEO)

ALEXANDRIA, LA (Aug. 28) – The United States Coast Guard's headquarters was stationed at the Louisiana Convention center in Alexandria. New Channel 5's John-Thomas Kobos revisited the center with its commander, Captain Frank Paskewich, to see what the Coast Guard learned during those difficult days.

http://www.kalb.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=KALB%2FMGArticle%2FALB_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1149190258083&path=!news!localnews

Coast Guard Rescuers Remember Katrina

WTOC-TV, Savannah

By Chris Cowperthwaite

SAVANNAH, GA (Aug. 29) – Last year, Coast Guard helicopters and crews from Savannah were among the hundreds plucking people off of rooftops in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Petty Officer Matthew Laub says he can't believe it's already been a year, and while he hopes he's never called to do something like that again, he's ready for it. <http://www.wtoctv.com/Global/story.asp?S=5343054&nav=0qq5BnCg>

Coast Guard petty officer to be buried at sea



Memorial service for Lt. Steven Duque in St. Augustine, FL. (Coast Guard photo)

Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel

MIAMI LAKES, FL (Aug. 26) – A U.S. Coast Guard petty officer from South Florida who died during an Arctic Ocean diving accident will be honored Monday with a memorial service and burial at sea. Petty Officer 2nd Class Steven Duque, who grew up in Miami Lakes, died on Aug. 17 while diving under the hull of his ship, the 420-foot Coast Guard Cutter Healy, about 500 miles north of Barrow, Alaska. [http://www.sun-](http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/local/broward/sfl-sduque26xaug26,0,4079689.story?coll=sfla-news-broward)

[sentinel.com/news/local/broward/sfl-sduque26xaug26,0,4079689.story?coll=sfla-news-broward](http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/local/broward/sfl-sduque26xaug26,0,4079689.story?coll=sfla-news-broward)

Healy's Commanding Officer temporarily relieved of command

Coast Guard Press Release

ALAMEDA, CA (Aug. 30) – Vice Adm. Charles D. Wurster, commander of the Coast Guard's Pacific Area, has temporarily relieved Capt. Douglas G. Russell of command of the Coast Guard cutter Healy, citing a loss of confidence in the officer's ability to command. The temporary relief follows the deaths of two crewmembers during dive operations in the Arctic Ocean approximately 500 miles north of Barrow, Alaska. The cause of the dive accident is currently under investigation. Capt. Daniel K. Oliver, formerly the enforcement branch chief within the Pacific Area response division and a previous commanding officer of the Healy, has been assigned temporary command of the cutter. Cutter Healy is scheduled to return to its homeport of Seattle on Sept. 4.

Costner and Kutcher get on board with Coast Guard

San Francisco Chronicle

By the Associated Press



ALAMEDA, CA (Aug. 28) – Kevin Costner and Ashton Kutcher received heroes welcomes Monday when they dropped by a U.S. Coast Guard station to promote "The Guardian," their upcoming movie which aims to do for the Coast Guard's elite rescue swimmers what "Top Gun" did for Navy fighter pilots. Costner told the assembled "Coasties" during the first stop of a planned multistate tour of Coast Guard stations that actors "are not nearly as impressive in person as we seem to be on film. We get to portray these men and women who are often tougher than we are, men and women who are often smarter than we are, and in the case of 'The Guardian,' we are talking about men and women with the personal courage to put themselves in danger in a way I don't know I would," the Academy Award winner said. <http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2006/08/28/entertainment/e185604D05.DTL>

Vested Interest

The Register-Guard, Eugene, OR

By Susan Palmer

Top of Form

NEWPORT, OR (Aug. 20) – On a recent Friday morning on Yaquina Bay, U.S. Coast Guard Operations Cmdr. Kevin Ziegler and Seaman Apprentice Dan Naylor nudged their 25-foot fast rescue boat away from the dock for a tour around the bay. Eight small recreational boats clustered at a nearby buoy, their occupants jigging for herring or throwing crab pots into the water. Just west of the bridge, a sightseeing charter vessel carrying more than a dozen people headed in from the open ocean.

<http://www.registerguard.com/news/2006/08/20/a1.lifevest.0820.p1.php?section=cityregion>

Cougar Ace righted and waiting for Coast Guard approval

Alaska Report

ANCHORAGE, AK (Aug. 26) – Salvage crews have righted the Cougar Ace, the car carrier ship that was listing severely 230 miles south of the Aleutians, and are waiting for Coast Guard approval to tow it to Portland, Oregon. The Coast Guard says it could be ready to leave Sunday or a couple of days after that. The Cougar Ace keeled over onto its

port side July 23 as the crew was attempting to adjust the ballast water at sea . The ship listed up to 80 degrees at one point. <http://www.alaskareport.com/news11003.htm>

Man pleads guilty to making hoax distress call

WPTV-TV, West Palm Beach

BOYNTON BEACH, FL (Aug. 22) – A Boynton Beach man is facing up to five years in prison for making a fake call to the U.S. Coast Guard about nine people aboard a sinking boat in the Atlantic Ocean. Forty five year old Robert Moran has pleaded guilty to making a hoax distress call. He may have to pay 250-thousand dollars in fines and repay the Coast Guard more than 347-thousand dollars spent on rescue efforts. Sentencing is scheduled for October 30. <http://www.wptv.com/About5/Index.cfm>

Coast Guard hero practiced at saving lives

The Toledo Blade

By David Patch

Lt. Bruce Tucker didn't rappel from a helicopter or drop a life raft when the U.S. Coast Guard rescued four people from a sailboat stranded in the North Atlantic during a vicious storm last year, but the role the native Toledoan played was just as vital to the sailors' survival. Lieutenant Tucker was one of six officers at the Coast Guard's Atlantic Area Command Center in Portsmouth who coordinated the rescue effort involving planes and helicopters from both the U.S. and Canadian coast guards, two U.S. Navy ships, and three merchant vessels. They recently received the Coast Guard's Search and Rescue Controller of the Year Award for 2005.

<http://www.toledoblade.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060828/NEWS08/608280330>

Port security pupils graduate

Hampton Roads Daily Press

By Stephanie Heintz

YORKTOWN, VA (Aug. 19) – Jean-Baptiste Mboussi, a lieutenant commander in the Republic of the Congo's navy, knows the dangers that terrorists pose for ports in his home country. "There is a terrorist threat everywhere," he said Friday. "But this idea of port security and how to do it has always been a vague notion for me." Not anymore. On Friday morning, Mboussi became the Republic of the Congo's first graduate of the

International Maritime Officers Course at the Yorktown Coast Guard Training Center.
<http://www.dailypress.com/news/local/dp-04290sy0aug19,0,793122.story?coll=dp-news-local-final>

Stolen boat recovered east of St. Lucie Inlet with naked drunken felon

Port St. Lucie News

By Gabriel Margasak

ST. LUCIE, FL (Aug. 23) – The "captain" of the vessel "Wild Card" was passed out naked in the tuna tower with drugs and a shotgun, adrift 5 miles east of the St. Lucie Inlet. Only he wasn't the real captain, and the Palm Beach Gardens resident who owned the 45-foot yacht didn't even know it was gone.

http://www.tcpalm.com/tcp/local_news/article/0,2545,TCP_16736_4936587,00.html

Officer wins Coast Guard's top award for reservists

The Vancouver Columbian

By Dean Baker

VANCOUVER, WA (Aug. 22) – Vancouver Police Officer John Key, a U.S. Coast Guard petty officer 1st class, has won the top national award the U.S. Coast Guard gives to a reservist. Key, 41, will be honored at a ceremony Sept. 13 in Washington, D.C. He will be promoted to chief petty officer and will receive a \$2,500 savings bond. He will meet President George Bush and also has been invited to attend the launch of the U.S. Space Shuttle Atlantis in Florida set for Aug. 27. "Petty Officer Key is Station Portland's go-to reservist," said Capt. Patrick G. Gerrity, commander of the Coast Guard's Portland station. <http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/08222006news52893.cfm>

In Oyster, Va., a Coast Guard pearl

The Washington Post

By Marianne Kyriakos

OYSTER, VA (Aug. 26, 2006) – The seven-bedroom 1936 U.S. Coast Guard station of your dreams is on the market. The asking price is \$5 million. And here's the cool part: It won't be so hard to climb to the crow's-nest lookout on the roof because the scary ship's ladder has been replaced by a spiral staircase. Who would buy this thing?

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/08/25/AR2006082500549.html?nav=rss_business

Deal needed to pay airfield costs

Cape Cod Times

By Kevin Dennehy

CAPE COD, MA (Aug. 26) – The Cape's congressional delegation is urging the Massachusetts National Guard to settle a cost-sharing agreement that would allow the U.S. Coast Guard to keep its air station on the Upper Cape. Although the Coast Guard recently learned it will receive an intelligence mission at Otis Air National Guard Base to replace the outgoing F-15 fighter jets, it is unclear who will cover the \$17 million annual cost of running the base's airfield.

<http://www.capecodonline.com/cctimes/dealneeded26.htm>

Waypoints Newsletter

<http://www.uscgboating.org/waypoints/pdf/waypoints-apr06.pdf>

Retiree Council Northwest Newsletter

www.cgretirenw.org

Coast Guard Aviation Association

<http://www.aoptero.org/>

Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association

<http://www.coastguardcombatvets.com/>

Coast Guard Sea Veterans of America

<http://cgsva.lbbhost.com/index.html>

Foundation for Coast Guard History

<http://www.fcgh.org>

U.S. Life-Saving Service Heritage Association

www.uslife-savingservice.org

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www.uscg.mil/news